

MORNING APPEAL

Official Paper of Ormsby County

Thursday, January 13 1887.

THIRTEENTH SESSION.

EIGHTH DAY.

SENATE.

CARSON CITY, NEV., Jan. 12th.
Senate met at 11 A. M., President in the chair.

Roll called, all present.
Prayer by Rev. E. W. Van Deventer.
Journal read and approved.
Committee on Engrossment reported S. B. No. 15. Correctly engrossed.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

By Thomas—S. B. No. 20, an Act to provide for the selection and sale of public lands. Read and referred to Com. on Public Lands.

By Westfield—S. B. No. 21, an Act to define and punish the crime of embezzlement. Referred to Judiciary Committee.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS.

By Sharon—Relative to pasting notices of all committee meetings on the bulletin board of the Senate Chamber. Adopted.

GENERAL FILE.

S. B. No. 7, and act concerning fees and compensation of officials. Ordered engrossed.

S. B. No. 15, an Act relative to supervision and maintenance of Public Schools.

[It reduces the number of census pupils from ten to five attending public schools at county expense.] Placed on File.

A message was received from the Assembly containing Resolution No. 5, relative to Joint Convention at 2 o'clock P. M., for the election of State Prison Warden. After much argument pro and con, the resolution was adopted.

A Committee of the Assembly was announced and the Senate requested to attend Senatorial Convention, so at 12 o'clock M. the Senate adjourned.

ASSEMBLY.

House called to order at 11 A. M., Speaker McDonnell in the chair.

Roll called, quorum present.
Prayer by Rev. G. L. Woods.
Journal read and approved.

Egan, (by leave)—A resolution that the sum of \$150 be appropriated to Wm. Alpherson for copying Journal for State Printer. Laid on table.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

Committee on Public Morals—Favorably on S. B. No. 5.

Committee on Corporations and Railroads reported substitute for S. Con. Res. No. 2.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS.

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 1, relative to appointing Joint Committee on Irrigation. (Drury's) Adopted.

NOTICE OF BILLS.

Williamson—Of a bill relative to developing mineral resources of Nevada.

Grissold—Relative to estates of deceased persons.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING.

By Leemo—An Act concerning crimes and punishments. Referred to Judiciary Committee.

GENERAL FILE.

A. B. No. 13—An Act to amend Sec. 8 of an Act relative to District Judges. (The only change in the bill is allowing one of the District Judges to reside at Winnemucca if he desires.) Passed.

By Drury—Resolution out of order, that Senate and Assembly meet in Joint Convention at 2 P. M. today for the purpose of selecting a Warden for the State Prison. Adopted.

Assembly substitute for Concurrent Resolution No. 2. (Harris measure relating to Inter-State Railroad) was taken up. (The substitute strikes out all unnecessary rubric.) Resolution Passed.

JOINT CONVENTION.

Senate and Assembly met in Joint Convention at 12 M. to declare and certify the election of U. S. Senator, the Lieutenant Governor presiding.

The Journal of the two Houses was read. Wm. M. Stewart declared elected U. S. Senator for the term of six years, from March the 4th, 1887.

By Noteware—That Committee

of two from Senate and one from Assembly be appointed to wait on Wm. M. Stewart and inform him of his election.

Senator Noteware and Assemblyman Logan appointed as a Committee to wait on Hon. Wm. M. Stewart and inform him of his election. In due time the Committee appeared with the Senator, who addressed Joint Convention as follows:

SPEECH OF ACCEPTANCE.

Members of the Joint Convention: Your action in electing me to the U. S. Senate fills me with gratitude to you and the people you represent. The canvass is ended. All the people of Nevada are now my constituents. While every act of kindness extended to me during the campaign will ever be remembered and reciprocated whenever an opportunity is afforded, I have no enemies to punish among those who have opposed me.

Every citizen of Nevada has a right to call on me for any service legitimately pertaining to the office of U. S. Senator, and I will faithfully perform my duty without regard to party. I have already served two terms in the Senate from Nevada, and during all that time I was aided and encouraged by the cordial cooperation of my constituents. That aid and encouragement enabled me to accomplish some good for the State.

It is my ambition to assist in placing Nevada among the wealthy and populous States of the West, and, in furtherance of that object all the people will unite, much may be accomplished. Our population is now small, but by honesty and economy the financial condition of our State is most satisfactory. Nevada has no outside indebtedness. It is true that she owes a small debt to the School Fund, nearly all of which was incurred by the Territory of Nevada in aid of the Union cause during the Rebellion, and which was afterwards assumed by the State.

THE SILVER QUESTION.

I have reflected much as to what can be done for the benefit of our State and for the development of its resources. Silver mining is one of our principal industries. The scheme to demonetize silver not only injures us, in common with all the people of the civilized world, by contracting the metallic currency, which for centuries has been the basis of all commercial transactions, nearly one-half, and thereby increasing the obligation of contracts, retarding enterprise and oppressing labor, but it injures us especially by destroying the business of silver mining. Free coinage of silver is the true and only remedy. Silver has been depreciated by excluding it from the Mint. Restore it to its former place as a money metal and allow the producer, as formerly, to exchange it at the Mint for coin at the standard ratio fixed by law, and it will be restored to par.

Fortunately for Nevada she has a Senator in Congress who is a recognized leader in the contest for the restoration of silver. It is a source of gratification to me that my relations with him are such that we can and will cooperate together as one man for the interests of our State. I had the honor to serve with Senator Jones in the Senate for two years. He was all that I could desire as a colleague. This is also fortunate for the State, for harmony in the delegation is essential to success. My relations with our Representative, Mr. Woodburn, are also most cordial. The entire delegation will co-operate for the benefit of our constituents.

IRRIGATION.

The disposition of the public domain of this State so as to utilize every part thereof which can be used either for cultivation or grazing is a subject which demands our earnest consideration. The people of the East and of the great Mississippi Valley are not well informed of the conditions which exist in that vast region between the plains of the Missouri and the Pacific Ocean. The land laws which are applicable to the prairies of the West must be greatly modified in their application to the mountains, the sage brush plains and deserts of the great interior. While we have in Nevada uninhabitable deserts, we also have vast regions of mountains and valleys upon which the most nutritious grasses that be found anywhere grow spontaneously. We also have sage brush plains which when irrigated produce every crop of grain, grass and fruit known to the temperate zone.

The expense is so great that a comparatively small part of the land in this State which is susceptible of irrigation has been or can be brought under cultivation by the efforts of individual settlers. Take, for example, the western end of our State: It is watered by streams flowing from the Sierra Nevada Mountains which sink in deserts or terminate in lakes which have no outlets. At least ninety per cent. of the waters of the Walker, Carson and Truckee rivers and other streams now runs to waste, while hundreds of thousands of acres of land that could be irrigated from these streams if the water was stored remain unreclaimed and useless. Similar conditions exist throughout all the States and Territories where irrigation is required.

Those facts must be brought to the attention of Congress. There should be a hydrographical and topographical survey of every stream which it is possible to utilize for irrigation. The surveys should show where water can be stored, the cost of dams and other structures for that purpose, the cost and dimensions of the necessary canals, and a description of the land which would be reclaimed. These surveys should also show what lands are only fit for grazing purposes. If Congress would order such surveys to be made by the engineers of the army under the supervision of the War Department in the same manner that our rivers and harbors are surveyed for the purpose of making improvements in aid of commerce and navigation, the work would soon be accomplished. It would be beneficial to the officers of the army, in affording them practice in their profession, and would furnish the United States with accurate maps for military purposes, and, at the same time, enable the Government to dispose of its lands and make homes for the people. With such information both Congress and the State could legislate intelligently. The desire of the Government of the United States to make homes for settlers would render it easy to induce Congress to either extend direct aid for the construction of the necessary hydraulic works for the reclamation of these Government lands, or to surrender the title of all its public lands in Nevada to the State upon condition that the State would construct or cause to be constructed the necessary hydraulic works to reclaim such lands as are capable of irrigation.

LABOR.

I am anxious to co-operate with you for the benefit of all our citizens, and particularly the laboring classes, and in benefiting the State we benefit them. If silver can be restored to par there will be employment for thousands of miners at good wages in our State, and in other mining States and Territories. If we can inaugurate a system of irrigation thousands of men will also be employed in developing the agricultural resources of the State. If we can enable persons engaged in raising live-stock to obtain title to lands unfit for other purposes we will add to the wealth and population of our State.

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

For the benefit of labor and the protection of our free institutions I am in favor of modifying the Burlingame Treaty and excluding all Asiatic laborers from coming to this country. An Exclusion Act is much simpler and more easily executed than a Restriction Act against Chinese immigration. I shall use my best efforts in Congress to accomplish this object.

EXTENSION OF TERRITORY.

There is one subject to which I desire to call your especial attention, for without your approval no step can be taken in the direction I am about to suggest. At the time of the organization of the Territories in this mountain region the people of the East were not informed of the extent of land unfit for cultivation, and consequently they made the Territories too small to enable them to become States containing wealth and population which would compare favorably with the other new States of the West. Soon after I was elected to the Senate I made an effort to partially remedy the mistake which had been made with regard to Nevada, and secured the extension of our boundaries one degree further east and so far south as to include all that portion of our present State which lies south of the 37th degree of north latitude. Nothing more could be done at that time. A further extension east,

it was feared, would give the Mormon Church the balance of power in our State, which would be intolerable. No extension north could then be made.

Idaho, our northern neighbor, had, and a portion of her inhabitants still have, a laudable ambition to become a State, but unfortunately for them the northern counties of that Territory are so situated as to naturally form a part of the new Territory, and future State, of Washington. That part of Idaho is separated from the southern part of that Territory by a range of mountains which makes communication between the two sections difficult and expensive, and it is geographically, and in every business and commercial point of view, a part of Washington Territory. It is included in the bill for the creation of the new State of Washington, which has passed the Senate and is now pending in the House of Representatives. It also made a part of Washington Territory by a bill which passed the House at the last session of Congress, and is now pending in the Senate. Sooner or later the northern counties of Idaho must necessarily be separated from the southern counties.

Without such division it is doubtful if Idaho could ever become a State, and certainly after the northern counties are cut off what remains of Idaho can never become a State containing the population which now is and hereafter will be demanded on the admission of new States.

The wealth and population of southern Idaho is about equal to ours. Both our State and the Territory of Idaho are comparatively free of debt. We have a well organized and an economical State Government which it has taken years to systematize. Our common schools are more liberally endowed than those of any other State. A union between Southern Idaho and Nevada will be beneficial to both. It would double the amount of taxable property, and thereby reduce the rate of taxation. It would silence all complaint against our unequal representation in the United States Senate and make a State which would take rank, in every respect, with the other new States of the West. It may be wise to include some part of the Territory of Utah in the annexation. But that is more doubtful. We must not under any circumstances place our institutions under the hostile rule of the Mormon Church. There are some Mormons living in Idaho, but the patriotic citizens of that Territory, after long experience, have found it necessary to exact from voters, when challenged, a test oath against polygamy, which the Mormons decline to take and therefore they are excluded from participating in the Government of the Territory. If our boundaries are to be extended in any direction where a Mormon population is, or is likely to be, it would be the part of wisdom to adopt a Constitutional amendment similar to the test oath of Idaho, for it is unreasonable for persons who adhere to an organization which requires of them insubordination to law, to take part in the Government of our country.

In case you deem it wise to annex any additional Territory to our State it would be well for this Legislature to signify that fact by passing an Act giving the consent of the State to accept such additional territory as Congress may annex upon such terms and conditions as it shall prescribe. Such action would avoid delay in case Congress shall see proper to extend our boundaries. Whether we obtain an extension or not, the fact that Nevada expresses her willingness to acquire more territory and population will be a good answer to those who complain of unequal representation in the Senate and sneer at us as a "rotten borough." It is not the fault of Nevada that she has not the seasonable rains and vast prairies which enabled the new States of the West to accumulate population, nor that after deducting her waste land the remainder is insufficient for a populous State. The boundaries of Nevada were fixed by Congress, not by the people of our State. We were invited during the throes of the Rebellion to become a State in the aid of the cause of the Union, and we should not be reproached on account of our small population, and especially if we ask Congress for such legislation as will place us on an equality in wealth and population with our sister States.

[Continued on Second Page.]

86 NEW
18 NEW
S. B. NEW
M. A. ONCE
T. - AGAIN - E
S. WE INVITE THE PUBLIC
R. - TO CALL AT OUR -
C. EMPORIUM
- AND INSPECT -
THE NUMEROUS ARTICLES THAT WE HAVE
JUST RECEIVED, SUITABLE
- FOR -
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